

Our County
D. Gary Davis
County Mayor

Wednesday, September 16, 2020

“The more things change, the more they stay the same” has been a quote in use for over 100 years. With references to many aspects of our lives, it is encouraging to me that this simple quote has continued to bring calm and a sense of purpose to an uncharted course that we have all had thrust upon us. The past 5 months have not been for the faint of heart for sure.

We have been through unprecedented times of change to every daily routine that we have all thought would never change. And we have ALL learned that we can adapt, we can overcome and we can change for the better. While many of the changes that we have been instructed to make a part of our daily lives and routines, the vast majority of these changes are what we should have been doing in the first place.

This past week we have seen the greatest decrease in the total numbers of COVID-19 cases within Bradley County and this is with more than 15,000 children and young adults returning to school and also their school-related activities. This is a testament to the leaders, administrators, employees, students, parents, and volunteers that make up the educational systems throughout the City of Cleveland and Bradley County school systems and also our private and home school systems as well. Working together, and continuing the 4 guidelines we have, are and will win the battle against this virus and its disease process. To continue to get thru this pandemic, we must continue to get the “active cases” down. They have continued to decrease over the last several weeks, however, let’s not get complacent. Remember to wash your hands or use sanitizer, remember the 6 ft. rule, please avoid large gatherings, and please wear a mask when around other people. Let’s all do our part.

To see how far we have come, it is important to remember our recent history. Less than 6 months ago we had never even thought of “flattening the curve”, or the losses

that a virus would cause to occur. Instead of constantly looking for someone to blame, those who seek to find answers are constantly looking for a way forward, together! The majority of Bradley County and those across our region are known to be resilient, resourceful, and ready to answer the call to help others at a moment's notice. With this ability to successfully adapt to a changing environment, we will always be known as Bradley County, Tennessee at its best!